

AMENDMENTS TO THE DRAWINGS

Figs. 4-7 have been labeled as --Prior Art--.

Attachment: Four Replacement Drawing Sheets (numbered 3/6 to 6/6, and including Figs. 4-7)

REMARKS

Claims 1-4 are all the claims pending in the application. Reconsideration and allowance of all the claims are respectfully requested in view of the following remarks.

Drawings

The Examiner asserts that Figs. 4-7 should be designated by a legend such as --Prior Art-- because only that which is old is illustrated. Accordingly, Applicants have submitted herewith 4 replacement drawing sheets (numbered 3/6 to 6/6) wherein Figs. 4-7 have been labeled as --Prior Art--.

Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. § 102

The Examiner rejected claims 1 and 3 under §102(e) as being anticipated by US Publication 2004/0171456 to Greenwood (hereinafter Greenwood). Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection because Greenwood fails to disclose all of the elements as set forth and arranged in the claims.

The Examiner's reliance on Greenwood is misplaced. The Examiner asserts that Fig. 8 of Greenwood discloses all the claimed features. Fig. 8 of Greenwood does appear to disclose that the hydraulic pressure supplied to the pressing device 200 is adjusted by the valve 204. However, Fig. 8 of Greenwood fails to disclose or suggest the other claimed features, such as "the main oil pressure control unit sets, as a target value, an oil pressure necessary for the pressing device to generate a pressing force necessary when a transmission ratio between the first and second disks is a transmission ratio requiring a maximum pressing force" and "the oil pressure correcting apparatus for electrically finding a necessary value corresponding to the optimum value of such pressing force to be generated by the pressing device as to vary according to the transmission ratio between the first and second disks and also for introducing an oil pressure of a value into the pressing device, the oil pressure of the value being obtained by subtracting a correction value, which is a difference between the necessary value and the target value, from the target value. "

For at least the above reasons, Greenwood fails to anticipate claim 1. Likewise, this reference fails to anticipate dependent claim 3.

Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. § 103

The Examiner rejected claims 2 and 4 under §103(a) as being unpatentable over Greenwood in view of Applicants' allegedly admitted prior art as illustrated in Figs. 4 and 5 of the present specification (hereinafter the AAPA). Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection because the references fail to teach or suggest all of the elements as set forth in the claims.

As noted above with respect to claim 1, Greenwood is deficient. The Examiner asserts that the AAPA teaches a roller support and actuating assembly. However, the AAPA fails to teach or suggest anything that would cure the above-noted deficiencies in Greenwood. Accordingly, for the sake of argument alone, even assuming that one of ordinary skill in the art were motivated to combine Greenwood and the AAPA, any such combination would still not teach or suggest all of the elements as set forth and arranged in the claims.

For at least the above reasons, Greenwood and the AAPA fail to render obvious Applicants' claims 2 and 4.

Conclusion

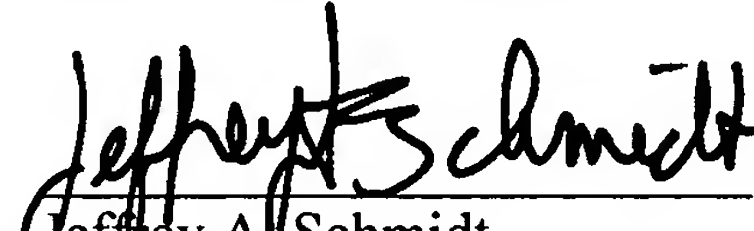
In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

Amendment Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.111
U.S. Appln No. 10/631,864

Atty. Docket: Q76786

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,


Jeffrey A. Schmidt
Registration No. 41,574

SUGHRUE MION, PLLC
Telephone: (202) 293-7060
Facsimile: (202) 293-7860

WASHINGTON OFFICE

23373

CUSTOMER NUMBER

Date: November 2, 2006